

# That Gay Marriage should be legal



GuitarKirby (PRO)

Welcome, Audience and Judges, to another Edeb8!

To save time and promote clarity in debate writing, I will be reiterating my usual formatting.

Direct quotations are in "quotes."

Important points will be in **bold**.

Indirect quotes and summaries will usually be *italicized*.

And finally, sources will be [hyperlinked](#) and turned into superscripts<sup>0</sup>.

**Special thanks as always to the judges and the opponent!**

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The Gay Marriage debacle continues once again! Pro has chosen to take the position that Gay Marriage should be legal and recognized in the same way as marriages between straight couples. In other words, **marriage between two people of the same physical sex should be legally recognized and treated as an equivalent of marriage between two people of differing physical sex.**

In Pro's opinion, most of the work lies with the opponent, who must prove that there is a reason why marriage between two persons of the same physical sex is in any way inferior to those of people with differing sexes. In anticipation, we would like to start by dismissing some of the most common arguments often taken by those on the opposing side of this issue preemptively, which we have broken down into the following points.

## **1) Gay Marriage is against traditional Christian values!**

A popular argument from the so-called "moral majority," particularly in America. There are a multitude of problems with this argument, the first of which is that it **fails to recognize the separation of Church and State**. Marriage is a state-based, legal contract between two people. While it is generally accepted as romantic, at its most base form, all it is is a legal form filled out by two consenting adults, no different than a business deal. To bring religious rejections of legal matters up is a poor idea. We would suggest before the opponent - or anyone on the Con side of this discussion - make this argument, replace the word "Christian" with the label of another religion. If something went against, say, Islamic values, would we feel the same making that argument in a legal scenario? Would we be interested in listening to the person making said argument?

Furthermore, if one were to go this route, they would then be forced to discuss all the forms of marriage that are considered acceptable in the Bible. This includes the following:

*Polyamorous Marriage, Genesis 4:19 (and many others)*

*Levirate Marriage, Genesis 38:6-10.* This form of marriage, otherwise known as brother-in-law marriage, saw women being married to their brother-in-law if they were widowed with no son.

*Man, Woman, Property (Female Slaves!) Genesis 16*

*Man, Woman, Concubines, Genesis 21:10*

*Male Soldier and Female PoW (Prisoner of War), Numbers 31:1-18*

*Rapist and Victim, Deuteronomy 22:28-29*

*Male Slave and assigned Female Slave, Exodus 21:4*

Pro is curious whether the opponent is interested in defending these on the basis of religious liberty, as well. If so, we are happy to provide further context.

## **2) Gay Marriage is bad for Children!**

Another common argument with two major issues. The first in this case is that there are many marriages between couples who cannot have children at all. Pro assumes that the judges and the opponent are not of the opinion that marriages are not valid unless they give rise to children. Similarly, many unmarried couples stay together over long periods of time and do, in fact, have children. Therefore the idea that marriage has anything to do with children in the first place is somewhat questionable.

The second problem is of course that this statement **simply is not true**. The abundance of sources on this subject is difficult to even begin describing how wrong this statement is, but in a study conducted at the University of New Hampshire, it was found that "the claims of the direct negative effects that homosexual parents have on their children's development have largely been refuted<sup>1</sup>."

## **3) If you let Gay couples get married, it devalues my straight marriage!**

Pro fails to understand this argument at the outset. In what way does a marriage of two other people, whether you associate with them or not, impact the quality of your marriage? In no way should gay couples getting married affect anything to do with the marriages of straight couples, except, perhaps, the availability of wedding venues.

Pro feels we have dismissed the most common arguments against the legalization and recognition of gay marriages, while simultaneously making our case proper for why they should be legal and

recognized - which boils down, quite simply, to the fact that **there is no reason they shouldn't**.

We appreciate the Judges time and look forward to the opponent's argument.

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amaya (CON)

**Round Forfeited**

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GuitarKirby (PRO)

All arguments extended to the next round.

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amaya (CON)

**Round Forfeited**

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GuitarKirby (PRO)

**Round Forfeited**

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